BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

Vol. IX November 1, 1941 No. 21

FICTION

MUST BOOKS

November 20

Lin Yutang — A LEAF IN THE STORM — John Day

China at war forms the background for this second novel by the author of *Moment in Peking* and three non-fiction titles. Though in no sense a sequel, some of the characters reappear, and by implication, there is a definite link with the spirit of the earlier book. The story centers around Poya, rich, member of a great family, unhappy in his marriage; Lao Peng, Buddhist idealist, who would sacrifice all for the cause of China and humanity; and Malin, whose shady past brings disaster on her hopes for the future, but who finds her destiny in the two men who loved her. The background of a nation at war, with all that implies, gives a richer sense of China now than any reportorial account can convey, for Lin Yutang makes one feel people living and loving and hating and fearing and hoping, as life goes on. One reads for the picture of a great race - for a glimpse into lives remote from our own in their traditions and conceptions and philosophy. But most of all one reads for the sharing of the author's interpretation of the meaning of today in China. Sure of a wide sale. $2.50

Bromfield, Louis — WILD IS THE RIVER November 19 — Harper

This has the earmarks of a ten strike from the angle of sheer story appeal,- romance, adventure, an American setting with unique ingredients for a skilled craftsman. Bromfield has taken advantage of every facet presented by his material: - New Orleans, after its capitulation to the North, but utterly with the Confederacy at heart, and hating its conquerors with all the strength of its decadent, rotten dilettantism; the plantations along the Louisiana bayous and the Delta; and - for sharp contrast - Boston drawing rooms, Mississippi river bottom land, jungles. Against this setting is told the incredible story of a New England Don Juan, strutting his stuff as member of the staff of a gluttonous governor-general (and his obnoxious wife), and of the gently reared New England girl, his fiancee, who defies the gossips and with her feminist aunt, sets forth for New Orleans, ostensibly to visit her uncle, the governor. Mad misadventures en route snap her into maturity, and - on arrival - she finds that her emotions have been sadly misplaced, her trust betrayed, while her hero sets his passion for a Madame against his ardor for the foreign-born widow in whose house he is quartered. Enter a very gentle, parfait knight, a Southerner with the spirit of a pioneer - and after more adventures, murder, plague, death by violence, true love finds a way. Exciting reading, a better integrated story than *The Rains Came*, but - in its details, distasteful for the fastidious palate, distressing in its sordid sensuality, too often unnecessary to the pattern of the tale. Furthermore, Bromfield, usually a sound craftsman, has contented himself with some inexcusably slipshod writing. Public libraries 'ware for conservatives..... Book sure of fanfare of popularity. Ran serially in Cosmopolitan. $2.50

January 5

Shute, Nevil — PIED PIPER — Morrow

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novel, *They Went on Together*. Shute has the faculty for seizing upon contemporary drama and weaving it into a story with very human elements. This is the story of a conservative, tradition-bound old Englishman, faced with the need to be needed, meeting it with quiet courage and no bombast. He is caught by rumors of German invasion, while on holiday in the Jura mountains, and is asked to take two English children to safety in England. In their checkered progress across invaded France, he takes under his wing other children, - the niece of a matron at the Inn, a French child whose parents were killed by a dive bomber before his eyes, a Dutch urchin, and finally - as the price of his own freedom, a German child, whose Jewish blood condemns her to perpetual escape. What a picture of refugee glutted roads, of German dive bombers, of terror - and yet of the sentimental weak spot that exposes even the most hardened to the appeal of sheer goodness. $2.50

January 23

Baum, Vicki MARION ALIVE Doubleday, Doran

(Originally reported for November publication - now postponed to this date.) Assured popularity on the author's name and previous books, this story in the true-confession style of Marion's life and loves, her personal problems, family, friends, covers a span from Vienna of before the last war, to Europe of the present crisis. Concerned more with intimate than world affairs, Marion, on the verge of admitting her love for an Englishman fifteen years her junior, sees the small, homely details of her past life in a series of lengthy flashbacks. A Viennese upbringing, her absorption in knowledge that is taboo, her violin career wrecked by a broken wrist, her work with a socialist and his death in 1914, Germany during war years, marriage and the birth of her babies, widowhood, remarriage with an American, and life in his country. Then a return to Nazified Germany, where her younger son, duped by the camouflage, thinks all is well, until he runs afoul of the machinery. The onslaught of the present war, efforts to effect the escape of Austrian friends, a decision to remain forced by the need for rounding out a cure of the youth's tuberculosis of the eyes...Such is Marion's life, replete with incidents, people, emotion, intimate revelation. Good for rentals and for the not-too-conservative woman reader. $2.75

A DARK HORSE ??

January 2

Meeker, Arthur Jr. THE IVORY MISCHIEF Houghton, Mifflin

Our report of September 15th queried "Why oh why is this being published?" The publishers replied: "So that the Book-of-the-Month Club could select it for January, and we could have the pleasure of ordering paper for 200,000 copies."...Such is life! Careful reappraisal of our impressions confirms what we reported on page 447. We think you'd better have a look at it yourselves, with these contradictions in mind. "No doubt it is a faithful and detailed record of 17th century France, and the story and characterizations simply wallow in the minutiae of facts, for what the author seems to have done is to inject a mild dose of fiction into a thoroughly documented historical record of the *Grand Siecle*, simply to supply motivation for the recorded characters and action. In the main, the story follows the fortunes of two sisters, Magdalen and "Cateau" de la Louppe, who are taken to Paris, married off successfully, and proceed through a series of post-marital affairs as they weave their intricate way through a maze of court intrigue." Check your customer list for readers who like this genre - and stock it for those who follow the lead of the book club selections. $2.75

Another Dark Horse - and One Good Name

There's a Carl Carmer novel of York State, GENESEE FEVER (Farrar & Rinehart); there's a new Wodehouse, MONEY IN THE BANK (Doubleday, Doran). See below for reports.

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS

November 6

Payne, Elisabeth Stancy THE PERFECT LAMB Dodd, Mead

Reliable Joanna takes over when her assorted step and half brothers and sisters find themselves penniless. Moving them out to an old Long Island cottage, she remeets Stephen, the perfect lamb, who is almost goat enough to marry Betty, Joanna's young sister, when she gets in trouble with his younger brother. But he doesn't have to at the end, which is nice for Joanna. Not quite as moral as this kind of thing should be - but it's a rental filler nonetheless. $2.00

November 7

Blake, William THE COPPERHEADS Dial

As different from his first two novels as they were from each other. An American setting - New York City, hot-bed of intrigue during the Civil War, for a story that reveals murky depths of Wall Street and political manipulators; and romance, star-crossed, as lovely Maria Meinhardt, daughter of a German-American baker, betrays her own love as she is tempted in one direction by glamor, cloaking unscrupulous machinations, and in another direction by petulant rebellion over fleeting unfaithfulness. A crowded canvas, as the unsavory picture of what went on behind the scenes while a nation battled for survival; an expose which paints a dark picture of bribery and corruption. Exhausting reading, for its multiplicity of character and sub-plot. $3.00

Lieferant, Henry & Sylvia TEACHER'S HUSBAND Dial

A novel of marriage with a thinly cloaked thesis background, which does not, however, mar the "pop public" appeal that the Lieferants have established for their novels. The marriage of a teacher and a chain store book buyer is based on sincere devotion and - on the wife's part - a certain scorn for her fellow teachers who support husbands on the side. The axe falls - her husband loses his job - and his false pride prevents his accepting any job not up to his standards. The issue eventually bids fair to split their marriage wide open until she takes matters into her own hands, and retires from professional life to have a baby. The day is saved. $2.50

November 17

Parmenter, Christine Whiting LIGHTS - AND A STAR Crowell

Sweet sentiment, a little Christmas story of a jobless man and his sick child whose heart is set on a Christmas tree - with lights - for which they have no money. And how the father, ill too, steals a tree from the home of the prominent citizen responsible for his unemployment, and a kindly doctor straightens it out. Small greeting for the season, which will appeal more to older people. $.75

Marmur, Jacland THE SEA AND THE SHORE Henry Holt

A rather strange book, not without beauty, this lyrical, elemental story of a sailor - and Galeta - the girl he loved through the years. Perhaps it is the girl,

whose questioning, elusive nature conditions the plot and makes it somewhat incredible. Charlie, her sailor, is a fine person, with the calm strength of his calling, but after a year of marriage, and despite her love for him, she leaves him believing that she will develop more fully alone. For twenty years they follow separate paths, only to be reunited after the death of their son, killed on his father's ship. For those who like Vercel, the sea, its hold, its moods, balancing a certain psychological conflict. $2.75

November 18

Sharp, Margery THREE COMPANION PIECES Little Brown

At the time of going to press, galley proofs on only one of these three novelettes had reached me, - *The Tigress on the Hearth.* This seems entirely outside Margery Sharp's usual orbit, for it is a somewhat satiric tale of the marriage of one of the "old school tie" boys to an Albanian Amazon, who had murdered a man to save his life - and who, untamed by marriage, murdered another man to give her love his chance in politics. An unconvincing tale, with less bite than might be expected, and less humor than Margery Sharp ordinarily employs. The other two - *The Nymph and the Nobleman*, and *Sophy Cassmajor* are described as deceptively demure Victorian pieces. $2.50

November 27

De Meyer, John A SENTIMENTAL YANKEE Random House

The author of *Village Tale* and *Bright Was Their Destiny* in another semi-slick, semi-sentimental story of New England, this time emphasizing the values of the good old days. John Diggs, a successful playwright, returns to his home town to find that it has grown too big and deteriorated with modernisms, chain stores, cocktail lounges, etc. How he shakes up the town until it recognizes what it has lost, and how Chris, his secretary, watches his pursuit by two local girls and queers their maiden efforts. Light, homespun, benevolent entertainment - but not too important. $2.50

December 5

Greig, Maysie GIRL WITHOUT CREDIT Doubleday, Doran

Change partner number, in which hard-working Kathryn loses her air pilot, Timmy, to a locust eater, Shelah, and in return gets Shelah's millionaire, Frank. Not pleased at first, it works out with the help of a Clipper accident, a trip to America, and lots of mind-changing. Drool school. $2.00

December 29

Carmer, Carl GENESEE FEVER Farrar & Rinehart

* Carl Carmer writes his first novel, and - for his background - has plumbed the rich history of New York's up-state "Genesee Country", in the period ten years and more after the Revolution, when various influences were at work to disrupt the young republic. Small religious groups played havoc with emotional balance; real estate operations on a grand scale were used as levers to inculcate disturbing anti-democratic impulses; miniature dictatorships throve briefly and perished. A rich pattern, with the thread of romance woven through, as Nathan Hart, escaped prisoner of Whiskey Rebellion uprisings, makes a place for himself, first as an itinerant portrait painter, then as a farmer, denying the rights of the aristocrats who were seeking to dominate the scene, and upholding the rights of the little land owners. His devious romances - now with a Philadelphia maid, now with a religious fanatic, now with a Maryland aristocrat who was sure she could convert him - finally found reality with a girl of mixed blood. First edition, limited, as of December 15. $2.50

January 5

Marshall, Marguerite Mooers ARMS AND THE GIRL Macrae Smith

How Rosemary, a nurse, joins the army after witnessing the draft-evading default of Sib, her childhood love. How Sib joins up too, only to find that she is not allowed to associate with privates, and is consorting with a charming, ruthless Southern captain. Kept apart by rules - and the captain - they eventually reunite after much jealousy, sickness, and downright low doings on the part of the captain. Rentals only, and they come better. $2.00

McCord, Joseph WALLS OF JERICHO Macrae Smith

Defense industries bring boom times to Jericho - but trouble to Carol, when her father's shrewd option on land brings them a small fortune and the friendship of young Dennison. For Dennison cuts out longtime steady beau, Wige, and the windfall further estranges Wige, and Carol isn't sure of her own feelings towards either of the men. But fate, in the form of an auto accident, makes her choice easier. That's all. $2.00

January 9

Wodehouse, P. G. MONEY IN THE BANK Doubleday, Doran

Further frivol, faintly reminiscent, of a Lord masquerading as a butler, an ex-barrister, mystery writer playing the part of a private inquiry agent, American racketeers in the role of innocent guests, misplaced diamonds, and two men after the same girl...all pursuing their individual interests under the eagle eye of Mrs. Cork. Lord Uffenham (doubling as Cakebread the butler) is faced with the problem of having to marry Mrs. Cork if the diamonds aren't found; Jeff does his best to win Anne away from Mrs. Cork's nephew; and the Molloys, not content with selling Mrs. Cork bogus oil wells feel they must not miss a chance to get the diamonds. And when the dust settles - all is well. As it will be for Wodehouse fans. $2.00

~~January 15~~ ✓ remove serialized

Swain, Virginia THE DOLLAR GOLD PIECE Farrar & Rinehart

Real estate boom in Kansas City, Mo. - 1887 - period of money-on-the-make; a boom town where business knew no rules, where money was out to conquer society, where women, conforming as necessity demanded, ruled in their own way. Politics and ambition hand in hand put marriage on the rocks, but the wheel turns, Leona, betrayed by a man unworthy of her, takes over her dead father's business, loses her fears, thrusts the two she had trusted from her home - and turns, hopefully to the future. $2.75 ✓

Late - But Don't Overlook It

Liddon, Eloise SOME LOSE THEIR WAY Dutton

Winner of Silver Medal, Thomas Jefferson Southern Award, this is more popular in appeal though not so good a book as the winner, *Mr. George's Joint*. The story of English Adriana who comes to Alabama in 1835 with her actress mother, member of Sol Swann's company in Montgomery. The mother has an accident and Adriana steps into her place, becomes the toast of the town, and - with Darrell Taber - escapes an Indian uprising. She becomes his mistress, then quarrels with him and marries Boyd Brandon, heir to a plantation. Taber's shadow stands between them and almost precipitates the crash of their marriage. But ultimately, Adriana returns to Boyd and realizes that he is her man...Romance, veneered with history, sidetracking that worked out well. $2.50

Mysteries, Westerns and Thrillers

November 3

Adams, Cleve F. THE BLACK DOOR Dutton

Ex-U. S. Narcotics Bureau Flagg, now engaged to 80 million dollars Connie, gets the run around from his fiancee, from his current employer, from the police, as he tries to help a Senator guard his daughter, bumps into murders and the threat of the Keeper of the Door. Well banged about himself, he sets his trap and gets a perfect score. California crime with doses of iron tinged humor. $2.00

November 14

Veiller, Bayard BAIT FOR A TIGER Reynal & Hitchcock

Six fine ripe young girls knifed one by one to terrorize New York's police department into ousting their Captain Wilson. Wilson takes on the case - nets in the killer's area - finds several hazy suspects - and eventually traps the killer who has a pretty outlandish motive for all this. Pretty bad. $2.00

Rice, Craig TRIAL BY FURY Simon & Schuster

That tippling trio, Jake, Helene and Malone, considerably toned down - by their set-to with the murder of an Ex-Senator in Jackson County (mid-west sticks). Bank explosion, three more murders, and an attempted lynching of Jake propel it along - not without effort. No fillip to this one. $2.00

~~November~~ 20 1/6

Carr, John Dickson DEATH TURNS THE TABLES Harper

* Fine fettled Fell, as Mr. Justice Ireton, famed for his adamant belief in his own abilities as interpreter and judge of the law, is faced with the murder of his daughter's fiance. Dr. Fell, in his usual peremptory manner, gets behind the local police, the suspects, etc, and produces an ingenious solution, manoeuvred in his own way. Smooth job. $2.00

December 1

Johns, Veronica Parker SHADY DOINGS Duell, Sloan & Pearce

Agatha Welch and Jack Prentiss, now married, and living in Connecticut, hand over a neatly packaged case of murder at a Connecticut Inn to the police, only to find they must backtrack for the real criminal. Through a model, they indentify a dismembered body, untangle a blackmailing, and wind up in a blaze of glory. $2.00

December 5

Heyer, Georgette ENVIOUS CASCA Doubleday, Doran

* Another of those English Christmas parties visited by murder, when the center of family friction, Nathaniel, is corpsed in sealed room style. Inspector Hemingway, from CID, finds the family solidarity hard to crack, but a lost book and a lost chance reveal the killer. Smooth in plot and writing - good job. $2.00

December 8

Seltzer, Charles Alden SO LONG, SUCKER Doubleday, Doran

* How Jim Kane wins the admiration of the town of Bear Paw when he gives no ground to Slim Kinney and his rustling mob, and the love of pretty and courageous Ann Dunstan who runs the general store in a top grade Western. Well handled. $2.00

Stout, Rex. ALPHABET HICKS Farrar & Rinehart

New detective character in the best "disbarred lawyer" impetuously retained to prove that Mrs. Dundee did not reveal her husband's plastic secrets to his competitor. He untangles two murders and the leakage of the Dundee secret formulae. Hicks is of the crabbed, show-me, end-justifies-the-means school, but Wolfe is still tops. $2.00

December 12

Wood, Sally MURDER OF A NOVELIST Simon & Schuster

Ladylike light murder when Miss Ann Thorne takes on the investigation of a murdered novelist -and rat - who is entangled with her family, neighbors, (New England) and first love, also a novelist. Mixed motives, literary and romantic, for a pleasantly genteel story. Nice. $2.00

January 2

Olsen, D. B. THE ALARM OF THE BLACK CAT Doubleday, Doran

Miss Rachel Murdock of *The Cat Saw Murder* snoopy-spinsters into family mix ups when she rents a house on a hunch. Complications are many and varied and the killing of two women is right up Miss Rachel's alley as she sleuths the case for her friend, Lt. Mayhew. Fair. $2.00

January 8

Bosworth, Allan R. FULL CRASH DIVE Duell Sloan & Pearce

Old Admiral Wetherbee, in California sick bay because of a broken leg, keeps a full log concerning all the accidents that befall a model submarine, testing. From its sinking which kills 22, to two murders and more attempted, Wetherbee spiders his web according to his own nautical methods. Adventure mystery - rather than detection. $2.00

January 9

MacDonald, William Colt THE SHADOW RIDER Doubleday, Doran

Good, exciting Western in which the Gila Shadow tells his own story of dodging the law in the United States and adventure in Mexico, where he returns the kindness of Spanish Santiago by saving him from murder and his children from execution. He wins the daughter and redeems his old crimes of stagecoach and bank robberies in satisfactory fashion. $2.00

MUST BOOKS

November 6

Brooks, Van Wyck OPINIONS OF OLIVER ALLSTON Dutton

This is an important book as a milestone in critical history, a field of literature in America which needs nust the hypodermic such a book as this could provide. Whether or not it will be read thoughtfully by those to whom its tenets will prove a challenge remains to be seen. Controversial - yes - Mr. Brooks has no "sacred cows". His is a plea for a fundamental American literature, not simply nationalistic or regional, but rooted in American backgrounds, set forth against American life and traditions. The form in which he presents his theme is not easy reading, quick consumption. He has written the autobiography of his own critical philosophyas though he, Van Wyck Brooks, were curator of the papers of one Oliver Allston. Consequently, the material taps the rich vein of his journals, earlier writings, with expansion, elucidation, further commentary. The result is a complete reappraisal of his thoughts, emotions and conclusions. Not only on literature and the function of the critic, but on social, economic and political thought, on writers, on human nature, on American traits. A book to be owned and read with care. $3.00

AND TWO DARK HORSES

~~November 17~~ December 20

Clapesattle, H. B. THE DOCTORS MAYO Univ. of Minnesota

* Here is the story of the surgical Mecca and those wonders of the West, the Mayos, from the "Old Doctor" and his pioneering in Minnesota, in politics, in surgery, to his two famous sons, Will and Charlie and their internationally known Clinic. It is the story of great men as well as a great institution - of tremendous work and tremendous success. Learning medicine almost from their cradle days, Will and Charlie had no doubts as to their careers, though they found being accepted in place of their father was their first obstacle in doctoring. All three working together in their first hospital, founded by Sisters of St. Francis, soon found local fame, and Will and Charlie, constantly on "brain dusting" trips, added to their knowledge, and explored all the new fields of surgery. Their versatile fingers brought them fame beyond local confines, and their "clinic in the cornfields" and their dramatic successes made them world known. It is a story of vast enterprise, of medical history, of characters deserving their fame. A worthwhile, thorough book, certain of wide notice and appeal. $3.75

November 21

Hayakawa, S. I. LANGUAGE IN ACTION Harcourt Brace

* A Professor at the Illinois Institute of Technology takes up where Stuart Chase left off - in the *Tyranny of Words*. He puts into practice the new science of semantics, the meaning of words, so that the average person may have a clearer knowledge of the working of language. Fascinating, irritating, this science of precision enables you to determine the effects of the words you use, to safeguard against persuasion or dissuasion, argument or propaganda, influence or inference. From the definition of language he proceeds to clarify its accuracy ("scientific verifiability"), the determiniation of the true context of words, and their applications, whether for connotative or denotative purposes, etc. This has many grounds for success; first, on the basis of personal education, similar to **Adler's** *How To Read A Book;* further as a simple, enlightening, and often humorous application of a provocative - and beneficial - science. Book Of The Month Club Selection for December, co-selection with *Storm* by George R. Stewart. $2.00

In The Running

Carlisle Bargeron's CONFUSION ON THE POTOMAC (Wilfred Funk), an inflammatory invective against the government's administration of national defense; Lion Feuchtwanger's THE DEVIL IN FRANCE (Viking), his experiences in a French concentration camp.

PROBLEMATICAL BOOKS

November 3

Grove, Russell Clark, M. D. SINUS Knopf

An outstanding man in the field writes about the common current complaint, sinus, in a straightforward small book which explains the infection in its many manifestations. Its causes, symptoms and diagnosis, the anatomy of the eight sinuses, the cures - medical and surgical. The very varied causes and effects of sinus make it reasonable for Grove to do no more than outline the general methods of relief used today; your particular sinus is your doctor's problem. Illustrated. Very good. $2.00

Hoffman, Paul COUNTRY CHRISTMAS Knopf

A tiny "stocking book", and a charming one, this brief reminiscence of a country Christmas celebration, held in a grove not far from Wiscasset. A Christmas ceremony, wholly American in spirit and expression. Henry Pitz has done delightfully spirited decorative drawings. (Appeared in the Atlantic.) $.50

Schoonmaker, Nancy &
Reid, Doris F. - Eds. WE TESTIFY Smith & Durrell

An anthology of the attempts made to keep us out of war, bringing the great guns to bear as a record of "men and women who stand at the peak of attainment in their several fields" attempt to "halt the mad rush toward involvement in a foreign war which may so easily spell the doom of the American manner of life". So Herbert Hoover, Carleton Beals, Robert Hutchins, Harry Emerson Fosdick, Hugh Johnson, John T. Flynn, Senator Wheeler, Senator Taft, Charles and Anne Lindbergh - and others - are quoted, and though the tone throughout is non-intervention, it is not necessarily isolationist. There are many divergencies of individual thought...on aid to Britain, on American preparedness, on the economic, moral, religious, industrial sides. For its side of the argument, a good collection, but their preface figure of "that vast 80 percent of Americans who stand for non-intervention" is a bit high. $2.50

November 6

Vassos, John DOGS ARE LIKE THAT Dutton

A natural, appealing story of a man and his dogs; the man, Vassos, illustrator and painter; the dogs, Dingo, a shepherd, and Rex, a Llewellen setter, their loves and litters. All sorts of experiences, amusing, sad, educational, of Dingo, proprietary and jealous, who resented all newcomers - of Rex, the hunting dog, who sometimes distinguished himself and sometimes disgraced his master. Illustrated with many lovely photographs by Beth Dickinson and 2 Bourke-Whites, this makes a nice gift book for any dog doter. $2.50

November 6

Van Doren, Carl - *Intro. by* THE OXFORD DICTIONARY OF QUOTATIONS **Oxford**

This is excellent and should prove an extremely useful reference book, for it includes much that other dictionaries of quotations have omitted. The index system is simple and easy to use. The arrangement of material falls into a few main classifications, - authors in alphabetical arrangement; the Book of Common Prayer; the Bible; anonymous extracts from English literature; quotations from Latin, Greek and foreign tongues, with translation. The quotations included are those that have proved their right to belong here, but one regrets the exclusion of many of the moderns. The balance sometimes seems askew, - ten pages approximately for Milton, one stanza for Edna St. Vincent Millay. Compiled by a group of experts. $5.00

Colby, Frank YOUR SPEECH AND HOW TO IMPROVE IT Vanguard

This was a surprise. I was expecting another book on platform presence, and allied subjects. Instead, this is an enlargement of the Colby phonetic system in a dictionary of pronunciation of words and proper names, a sizable section on the proper choice and use of words (too often misused), and another section on the origins of familiar expressions. The radio has made the world speech conscious. This should prove a first aid kit to everyone who wishes to improve his diction. $2.95

Wright, Richard 12 MILLION BLACK VOICES Viking

An extraordinary book, a documentary record in pictures and text of the unsung millions who have come up from slavery to another form of slavery, - share cropping, tenant farming, destitution, migratory work and virtual ghettos in the large cities. From cultural backgrounds in Africa, through the medium of the slave traffic, the rise and fall of slavery, emancipation without preparation, and victimization at the hands of our social and economic system. A fearful indictment of America's treatment of one of her minorities, done in few words, but those searing, tragic, frequently poetic. Gorgeous pictures beautifully produced. $3.00

November 10

Boswell, Rolfe NOSTRADAMUS SPEAKS Crowell

Another book about the 16th century seer which differs from the Scribner book (*Nostradamus Deadly Parallel* - P. 458) in being a general analysis of the prophecies as they relate to modern times, where that book is a comparison of the passages relating to Napoleon and those relating to Hitler. This book covers a wider field, including a biographical sketch of Nostradamus, a brief history of the growth of the saga, an analysis of the difficulties confronting an interpretor, and a reinterpretation of the passages translated in light of historical events. Quatrain by quatrain - with conflicting commentary in some cases, and fresh interpretation. I found the clue method analysis of the Scribner book more fascinating reading than this - but the two dovetail very neatly, for those interested in the prophecies. $2.50

Milne, A. A. THE POCKET MILNE Dutton

An amusing and characteristic introduction shows how Milne of recent years is in constant comparison with the younger Milne of *Punch* - and how, from the objective distance of twenty to thirty years, he has dared appraise his own young writings and issue, in this volume, what he considers the best. Essays, frequently suggestive of "Saki" but not quite so subtle, very entertaining reading. He divides the material into six sections, - *Games and Pastimes, Life's Little Difficulties, Little Plays for Amateurs, Stories of Successful Lives, A Mixed Lot* and *Burlesques*. Unprepossessing format. $2.00

November 11

Bargeron, Carlisle CONFUSION ON THE POTOMAC Wilfred Funk

Full of gossip, slander, inside stories gotten through peep holes in under the bed fashion, this is a malicious attack on most of the personalities in Washington today. For those who want the goods on Justices Frankfurter, Murphy and Douglas, or Hillman, Ickes, Henderson, Corcoran, Morgenthau, Eccles, et al. Praise goes to the dollar-a-year men only, and regrets that their work is continually hampered by the New Dealers. The author asks "why one should write a book such as this at this particular time?". Many readers will also want to know why - as it is distinctly not constructive. There will be however many people wanting a book like this - and it may well be another *Country Squire In The White House*. In fact whether you like it or not, the public will and it looks like a best seller. $2.50

Thornton, Willis ALMANAC FOR AMERICANS Greenberg

This might prove useful for speakers and preachers, in fact for anyone who might want to know who was born on a certain date, what historical incident happened on that date, what event in the world of music, literature, art, took place. Date by date through the year, with the emphasis on American history rather than world history. Indexed by subject, keyed to months and days, rather than pages. James Daugherty has done the illustrations. Boxed de luxe edition at $5.00. Trade at $2.75

November 12

McBride, Mary Margaret AMERICA FOR ME Macmillan

Mary Margaret wrote the autobiography of a Missouri childhood in *How Dear To My Heart*. Now she has written a small book, big in its implications and significance for the average American who cannot (or will not) read profound treatises on the meaning of democracy but who can go along with what it is to be an American in terms of our cities and towns, homes and jobs, food and friends. All this is woven into a loosely patterned, homespun philosophy of one American, raised in Missouri and living in a New York penthouse, dreaming dreams of a farmhouse with a summer kitchen. This has more fragments of autobiography; it has interesting bits of history; it has all sorts of odd anecdotes of people; it has her answers, as an American to the questions asked of our immigrants; it has the hope of an America that contains the ingredients of a greater democracy, worth fighting to save for the future towards which we are still growing. And it's written in the friendly human spirit well loved by her radio audience the country over. $1.00

Geyer, Harold G. ALL MEN HAVE LOVED THEE Richard R. Smith

A unique book, embodying certain elements that many of us have wished could be brought into focus, namely the coordinating of the frantic background of France, dissension torn during the years 1933-34, with the record of student life patterned against the tumult. There is a nostalgic quality in the letters an art student writes his mother of his search for a room with a view, of the feel and beauty and darkness and fascination of Paris, of his daily adventures, of his fellow tenants, his fellow art students, of country week-ends - all brought to life not only by the vividness of his style, but by random sketches, and superb etchings which have caught the very essence of Paris. Poetry, interspersed as the mood calls for it, seems to me less successful. And the whole personal picture is set against the history of the times as reflected by headlines and simulated photostated front pages from current newspapers. There, in the text, one gets a sense of fate rushing upon dismembered France and England and America asleep. It ends with the Dolfuss murder. A unusual conception, successfully carried out, in a book which should catch the imagination of those who loved France. $3.75

November 13

Hoffmeister, Adolf THE ANIMALS ARE IN CAGES Greenberg

Through Prokop, a satirist in verse, whose books and utterances are anti-Fascist, the author tells of the road of the refugee, from Prague, in 1939, to France where he is imprisoned through suspicion, and moved from prison city to prison city, and finally escapes in a blackout, then Morocco, Portugal - and finally America. The madhouse of waiting for visas, of the jealous, insincere, furtive behavior of fellow refugees, the hopelessness, homelessness - all are ironically portrayed. Illus. $2.50

November 14

Hubler, Richard G. LOU GEHRIG Houghton Mifflin

For all ages, this grand biography of one of baseball's great men, the "Iron Horse" of the Yankees. From a big, fat lumbering kid from the sidewalks of New York, to the idol of all who knew or watched him, as an athlete and as a man. This is a successful biography, realistic, unsentimental. (See juvenile supplement for fuller report.) $2.00

Riess, Curt TOTAL ESPIONAGE Putnam

This is the story of how espionage has been established and developed on a mass basis, the "total espionage" of Germany today and how it has been checked, or not, in other countries. The author's word for the authenticity of his sources, largely original reports. It's good reading, and tallies for the most part with other material which has appeared. Using Japan as a model, Hess was the idea-man and organizer of total espionage. Under his coordination were formed the spy schools of Himmler, Goebbels' propaganda network, Bohle's League of Germans abroad, 372,00 active spies by the start of the war. And how the Deuxieme Bureau of France slipped, England's B 4 did not - and trapped Hess (the goods on this story), America's FBI, Russia's 5th column purges, all in all contributing to a checkmating of Hitler's spy forces by the powers today. Holding reading, and for the most part - seems true. $2.75

November 14

Duranty, Walter THE KREMLIN AND THE PEOPLE Reynal & Hitchcock

The author of *I Write As I Please* is as well equipped as anyone could be to interpret the Russia of the past ten years to the American reader. He has used the enigma of the famous Trials as his springboard, and in relating the ambiguities, the contradictions that went into that dark picture, he reflects the determination kf Stalin, at any cost, to eliminate dangers of potential Fifth Column activities, One gets vignettes of the leaders of Russia during these years - the whys of the purges - the shock of the Munich Pact and its effect on the Kremlin. There is no whitewashing - but one does finish the book with a somewhat clearer understanding of the purpose which governed each step - the trials, the purge, the Finnish War, the pact with Germany - and the undeviating determination to save Russia, for the Russians. The story of the trials reads like bits of a mystery story. The revelation of undercurrents in ten years of Russian history helps strengthen one's sharing of Duranty's conviction that "Hitler cannot conquer Russia". This is perhaps less detailed factually than the Hindus book, in its picture of preparedness in the making - but there is more of the psychology back of the Russian diplomacy, neither all black nor all white. An important book. $2.50

November 18

Thomas, Lowell PAGEANT OF LIFE Wilfred Funk

A collection of odd stories, all of "human interest" value, in the Lowell Thomas vox pop de trop manner. Stories of children, animals, royalty, rulers, celebrities, professionals of peril, crime and punishment, the wheel of chance, ironic turns, etc. grouped in categories. An abundance, if you like this kind of thing. $2.50

November 20

Lambert, Clara I SING AMERICA John Day

Although the publishers intend a juvenile sale on this, we feel that it is just as much, if not more, for adults. A saga of America, its geography and geology, its beginnings, its regional complexities of history and government and social life. The rhythms of the saga are almost Whitmanesque. New England - Appalachia - Inland Empire - Great Plains - Great Basins - Mountains of the Northwest - the Southwest. The elements that contributed to their development, their growth, their change. Absorbing reading. (See page 547 of Juvenile Supplement for previous report.) Illus. $2.50

Hibben, Sheila A KITCHEN MANUAL Duell, Sloan & Pearce

The author of the *National Cookbook* and well-known columnist, here shares some of the secrets that make the difference between good cooking and mediocre following of recipes. Here is the basis of the art of good cooking, - not the *what* but the *how*. Few recipes, but an amazing amount of information, answers to questions every natural cook discovers for herself, but which the average cook needs to know. Soup making, fish cookery, poultry and game, meat cookery, vegetables, sauces and seasonings, combinations of flavors, guide to marketing, an ABC of carving. I loved it - found it good reading and titillation to the palate. It made me want to go into the kitchen and prove for myself that such and such should be salted first - or last; that the yoke of an egg introduced into a cream sauce at a specific moment gives the right texture. A book that was needed. $2.50

Announcing for November ~~20~~ 19

Millay, Edna St. Vincent COLLECTED SONNETS Harper

A volume which brings together 175 sonnets, selected by Miss Millay, and including three not hitherto published in book form, which gives it a first edition value for collectors. Slip case and bound in cloth $3.00. Leather $5.00

~~November 21~~ 12/1

Rayburn, Otto Ernest OZARK COUNTRY Duell Sloan & Pearce

Fourth of the American Folkways books is an account of the Ozark country of Missouri, Arkansas and Oklahoma, and a sympathetic, warm report on the land and its people which underlines the romance of their past isolation and their future regimentation. From their economic survival through their ingenuity, foresight and business acumen, to the history of the section with details on foods, arts, crafts, skills, traditions, sports, pastimes, education and justice and medicine. Individual characters, anecdotes and personal experiences are introduced along with the factual data so that the whole picture has a pleasant, warm hearted feel. In line with the rest of the series, good reportage and interpretation for the public. $3.00

November 21

Parran, Thomas, M.D. &
Vonderlehr, R.A., M.D. PLAIN WORDS ABOUT VENEREAL DISEASE Reynal & Hitchcock

More campaigning against syphilis and gonorrhea by the Surgeon-Generals of the United States. Although the incidence of syphilis has been reduced a third, and gonorrhea can be cured within a few days with the new sulfanomid drugs, there is still much to be done in the fight against venereal disease. And it is more imperative today, with the need to protect the new army which is in training. A pep talk, on a grave subject. Unfortunately the material is very thin (particularly in comparison to Parran's first book on the subject - *Shadow On The Land*) and very repetitious. $2.00

November 24

Feuchtwanger, Lion THE DEVIL IN FRANCE Viking

* This makes up the big three of the personal narratives of concentration camp experiences, wherein Feuchtwanger writes of what he has been through "as personally, as subjectively as possible". There is not the high drama of the Habe book - the emotionalism of the Koestler book; but it is a more thinking book. Throughout Feuchtwanger has gone beyond the individual to interpret the philosophical, the psychological, derivations of his summer in 1940. First in the concentration camp at Le Mille, a brick-year, where Germans and Austrians, Jews and a few Nazis, lived through overcrowding, noise, stench, and the omnipresent dust of bricks - bricks - bricks. And shepherding them all was the Devil of France, the devil of indifference, sloth, bureaucracy, more frustrating than any devil of malice or hatred. Finally the fall of France, the encroaching Nazis, and the vital problem of release - or escape - which was eventually manoeuvred for him. The market may be partially exhausted, but Feuchtwanger has a following for all he writes. $2.75

~~November 25~~ February 17

Wenstrom, Wm. Holmes, Maj. WEATHER *And The Ocean of Air* Houghton Mifflin

The importance of the science of aerology is increasing steadily with the advance of aviation, of agriculture, and so on. The interest is widespread, if one can judge by the universality of weather reports (newspapers, radio, etc.). This is in small part a record of personal experience in high altitude flying, but primarily a study of the tremendous advance made in instruments, in theory of meteorology, in application of advance data. A chapter on amateurs, on weather in the air, and on the water. Some ventures in prophecy. Very fully illustrated. $~~3.50~~ 4.50

Masefield, John GAUTAMA THE ENLIGHTENED *And Other Verse* Macmillan

The English Poet Laureate tells, in the title poem, of the enlightenment of Gautama, the Indian prince whom the world knows as Buddha, when, escaped from his guarded, luxurious life, he found the ills of the world and dedicated himself to the deliverance of mankind. *Shopping in Oxford* is a category of that town's stores and their delights; *Mahdama's Quest* the pursuit of an Indian prince for his love: *An Art Worker* tells the things that make up an artist's life. This is a slim volume for followers of the mellow Masefield, more in a philosophical, contemplative, retrospective vein when "wisdom's day is in". $1.50

December 1

Schuman, Frederick I. DESIGN FOR POWER Knopf

Professor Schuman, author of *The Nazi Dictatorship* and *Europe On The Eve*, continues his investigation of current international affairs, to the third fall of the

present war, aligning the Powers involved and prognosticating their future in light of present happenings and possibilities. Decrying the irresponsibility, defeatism and blindness of the great democracies, the self inflicted agony of England and the self inflicted martyrdom of France, these are "ungentle pages" for the gentle reader as Japan, Italy, Germany, France, England, Russia and the United States come under the microscope for their actions of recent years, as verbiage and inaction take the place of action, as the United States is dilatory about assuming her responsibilities. There is, moreover, a blueprint for the future, of federation as the hope for the world. It is clear-cut, brilliant analysis, on the interventionist side. $3.50

~~December ??~~ 1/7/42 12/29

Davies, Joseph E. MISSION TO MOSCOW Simon & Schuster

From his diary, journal, reports to Washington, letters, this is Ambassador Davies' recapitulation of his stay in Moscow in 1937 and 1938. As a picture and an interpretation of Russia, which the book is, it lacks the vitality and depth of the Duranty book, or the Hindus book. It is also overlong, reiterative, with the duplication of material from diary to journal, journal to letters, etc. Interviews, sightseeing, inspection trips, entertainments, a year's observation on all phases of Russia which leads to these primary conclusions. That Russia is a capitalistic form of socialism, that the personal profit motive had to be restored to industry, that Stalin's grip on the country has never relaxed, etc. And at the close he brings the book up to date with his opinions on the war, and Russia's chances which he believes infinitely greater than attributed to her. Not another Dodd, but an interesting, extensive report. $3.00

January ~~8~~ 19

Smith, Henry Ladd AIRWAYS Knopf

* Not just a dry presentation of facts, this is a grand, interestingly written history of the development of commercial aviation in this country, which carries the reader from the earliest attempts at flight through the full lifetime of the still young but now vigorous flying industry. On the craftsman's side, from Langley's steam-propelled model to the giant skyliners; on the operators' side, from the first airplane mail to the present day network for passengers, mail and express; and on the governmental side, from the first airmail subsidy to the new Civil Aeronautics Board under the Department of Commerce. All the mistakes, all the achievements of the struggling but courageous group of scientists, fliers and executives, a great many still alive, having seen their dangerous venture grow into a safe and economically successful transportation business of giant proportions - with a future ahead "such as an H. G. Wells might dream about". There will be 32 illustrations. $3.50 ✓

January 6

Franklin, Jay REMAKING AMERICA Houghton Mifflin

This is a paean to the reconstruction of America which is being carried out today by the government after the years of exploitation and dangerous individualism which have left only a harvest of wreckage. In rapid, concrete, manner the political columnist sums up the "remaking of America". Its land, reforestation, the CCC, the restoration of grass lands, wild life, soil, farms; its water, harnessing power, flood control, regulation of commerce, the TVA and Boulder Dam; the people, unemployment, labor, wages, food, medicine and hospitalization, housing, education. A resume of the progressive changes which are often ignored or taken for granted. Illustrated. $2.75

January ~~8~~ 20

Thompson, Charles Miner INDEPENDENT VERMONT Houghton, Mifflin

Frankly, it seems to this reader at least that a second book paralleling so closely the Van de Water *Reluctant Republic* is bringing coals to Newcastle. In comparison this text seems heavy going. On some points Mr. Thompson and Mr. Van de Water disagree as to interpretation and sources, but in the main, *Independent Vermont* covers virtually the same period, the same personalities (with less vitality) and the same awareness of the essential Vermont characteristics. The book has all the earmarks of thorough and intimate acquaintance with every aspect of the subject. The lack seems to be that light touch, that sense of story, which made *The Reluctant Republic* a discovery for those of us not "bred and born" in Vermont. Ill'd. ~~$3.75~~ 4.50

January 9

Connolly, James B. CANTON CAPTAIN Doubleday, Doran

Reported originally on page 421 of the September 1st bulletin as follows. "A rather saltless account of an old salt, Robert Forbes, one of the foremost figures in the China Trade. Off to sea at 13, third mate at 16, Captain at 19, Forbes had an early and thorough apprenticeship at sea and in Canton. A life of long chances, heavy gambles, high profits; his part in the opium trade and war; various steamship experiences back in the U. S.; an expedition to relieve famine in Ireland - finally retirement. What might have been a glamorous and revealing picture emerges as a fairly unaccented life. $3.00

Hambidge, Gove THE PRIME OF LIFE Doubleday, Doran

He is 50, this author of *Time To Live*. The home of which he wrote three book has been sold. He and his family have fitted themselves into the miracle house in Chevy Chase, the one place near his job in the Dept. of Agriculture where they would feel at home with earth to call their own and myriads of birds. This book is a medly of autobiography, of tribute to those nearest him, and to his fellow workers; and of the philosophy of fifty years of age, with health, sufficient wealth, and a job that holds the imagination. The balance of the text is chiefly devoted to that job, to the history briefly of the Department, and to what it means to America today and tomorrow. $2.00

~~Mid-~~January 20 ~~18~~

Hayden, Joseph Ralston THE PHILIPPINES Macmillan

An intensive study of the growth of civil government in the islands, and even duller than it sounds. A ponderous, authoritative, well documented record of Filipino Congressional activity. The author is strongly Pro-Filipino and believes that their standards will eventually prevail over the American influence in government. A mass of information probably not available elsewhere, such as the retirement system for public school teachers, history of their Legislature since 1907, etc. - but the facts seem unrelated to civil government in other parts of the world and prove little. $7.50

Published

Powers, John Robert THE POWERS GIRLS Dutton

A better book than Olga Malcova's *Wanted - Girl With Glamour*, in which John Powers, whose agency is the largest and most select in the world, covers the career inclusively. Creating the model of today, the poised "Natural girl", assets, clothes, make-up, figure, etc. Types of jobs to be secured, all illustrated by the experiences of his success stories. More suggestions, more - and better - advice - than in its predecessor. $2.50

Ray, Ermin L. MD & Washburn, Stanley, Jr. Wilfred Funk

ARE YOU FIT TO BE A PILOT

This is a game with a purpose. Naturally, I have no aspirations towards joining the air force, but I was seriously tempted to "borrow" some time and put myself through the tests. The purpose of the book is to make it possible for the youth who dreads the physical tests to find out in advance what his physical score is apt to be. Through tests, charts, diagrams, home equipment and procedure carefully described, one can test eyes, ears, sense of balance, circulation, muscular coordination, ability to relax, and so on. Twelve basic tests -and a summary score sheet. Illustrated with photographs, charts and diagrams. $1.75

Kains, M. G. WE WANTED A FARM Greenberg

Five Acres and Independence suddenly jumped into the limelight when a radio program called attention to it as a realistic and practical how-to-do-it book for the aspiring amateur farmer. Now comes its sequel - which perhaps ought to have preceded the other bock, for here is the story of how one city couple did it, by dint of successive experiments, - a rented suburban house (with a vegetable garden); an owned suburban house (with a garden); finally a five acre farm, with a house still in its primitive state. Comparatively little space is given to personal adventures of reclaiming house and grounds. Actually, their own experience is telescoped with afterthought to provide the reader with a blue print of how to go about such practical things as bringing soil up to par, creating berry patches, grape vines, orchards that bear fruit. How and where to buy nursery stock and what to do with it. Establishing a vegetable patch that earns its way. Fighting the enemies Nature provides. And making a house livable. A more attractive looking book than the earlier one, and one destined for popular consumption by the hopefuls, where the other is for the practical working farmer who has undertaken the job. $2.00

Johnson, Edgar *Ed.* A TREASURY OF BIOGRAPHY Howell, Soskin

In one volume, twenty four selections from biographies famous, not for their subjects alone, but for their manner, the quality of their style, the contribution they make to enriching man's knowledge of man. The emphasis is on biographies of a generation past, with Lincoln Steffens the most modern of the lot. An interesting experiment in editing, as the selections are designed to include the significant moments, the heart of each biography, with editorial connecting links to make it read consecutively. Introductory notes on author and subject place each selection for the reader. The range extends from Thomas Wolsey and Sir Thomas More to Henry Adams, Edmond Gosse and Lincoln Steffens. If the result is that resistance to the biographical form of writing is broken down, much is accomplished. If this should serve not as an appetiser but as a whole meal, the reader would be the loser. $3.75

PLEASE NOTE THESE CHANGES IN TITLE, DATE AND PRICE

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Nott, Stanley - THE YOUNG CHURCHILL - from 11/11 to 11/20 (J)	546
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Kolodin, I. - A GUIDE TO RECORDED MUSIC - from 11/21 to 12/5	520
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White, W. L. - Title from SOMEWHERE IN ENGLAND to JOURNEY FOR MARGARET	462
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Myrdal, Alva - NATICN AND FAMILY - from 10/15 to 11/6	457
Wilder, L.I.-LITTLE TOWN ON THE PRAIRIE - from 10/29 to 11/20 (J) (N.Y.C. 11/6)	477
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Fast, Howard - THE ROMANCE OF A PEOPLE - Correct price $2.50 (J)	405
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THE NEW YORK OFFICE CALENDAR - NOVEMBER 15TH TO DECEMBDR 1ST

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BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

Vol. IX November 1, 1941 No. 18

RELIGIOUS BOOK SUPPLEMENT: No. 5

Edited by Gene Simmonds

Aldrich, Donald B. & Stevens, Wm. Oliver — THE GOLDEN BOOK OF PRAYER — Dodd, Mead

Prayers of all nations, all ages, all men, for all occasions. There are meditations, confessions, moods, intercessions, litanies and benedictions, a fresh and stimulating variety. During the last war books on prayer were greatly in demand. At the present time it is more than likely that this book by two well known figures will be needed. (11/6) $2.00

Bowie, W. Russell — THE STORY OF THE BIBLE — Abingdon-Cokesbury

A new, low priced edition of Dr. Bowie's popular story of the Bible, written in simple language for all ages. It is a book which should have a good sale as a reprint. Excellent print, nice paper, good binding and colorful illustrations combine to enhance its appeal. While the author is a well known leader of the Episcopal church, all denominations have used and endorsed this book. (Publ.) $1.95

Browne-Olf, Lillian — THEIR NAME IS PIUS — Bruce

1775 to 1939 via the lives of five great popes, all named Pius. Occasionally the reigns of several kings reflect the history of a country. Rarely, however, do we see the trend of world events so clearly traced as in the stories linking these holy men. Three pursued and tormented by revolution and captors, two overshadowed by modernism and the sinister form of war and world unrest. Their charity, perspicacity and courage make remarkable reading, and their lives are well recorded by a convert. For all denominations. (Pub.) $3.00

Dicks, Russell L. — WHO IS MY PATIENT? — Macmillan

A practical and intelligent manual for nurses. Under normal circumstances this book would be extremely helpful to any good nurse for the medical world admits the therapeutic value of religion in certain types of illness. Today, with the increasing nursing organizations, Red Cross branches, etc. this is a valuable book to know about and to recommend. (Pub.) $1.50

Farrell, Walter, O. P. — A COMPANION TO THE SUMMA — Sheed & Ward
The Architect of the Universe

We've had two volumes (volumes II and III) on the moral works of St. Thomas. Here starts the dogmatic Volume I of the group. As in the earlier volumes, Father Farrell uses modern illustrations and simple, comprehensible language to bring the reader close to St. Thomas, his ideas and philosophy. Volume IV is still to come and will complete the group, the object of which is to open the way to a more general understand-

ing of the Saints' works. For Catholics, Anglican and Roman, layman and priest, this is an important work and one that should be in every college and seminary library, and in every large public library. (Pub.) $3.50

Hart, Hornell NEW GATEWAYS TO CREATIVE LIVING Abingdon-Cokesbury

A self-help book, using science, spirit and suggestion as the means by which to build a happy, creative life. Brief guidance to provide security for, and a solution to, the problems of modern individuals. (Pub.) $1.75

Holmes, F. L. THE VOICE OF TRAPPIST SILENCE Longmans, Green

A business man became intrigued by the Trappists, outgrowth of the Cistercian order, the brown-robed monks who work and pray and are bound by the rule of silence. He investigated, visited, went into retreats until even their Abbots felt he had caught the spirit of the colony perfectly enough to voice it to the world. One of them, the Right Reverend Bruno Ryan has written the introduction. Mr. Holmes is one of the few men ever permitted to penetrate "the voice of silence" and he was also allowed to take many photographs for his book. (11/?) $2.50

Houselander, Caryll THIS WAR IS THE PASSION Sheed & Ward

* A young Roman Catholic girl experiences the war as a crucible of the spirit. Characteristic of the whole book is the originality of thought and expression in the title. There is a penetrating freshness and spirituality that is both stimulating and revealing. Instead of the phrase we unthinkingly use, the "Hell of War", she thinks through the phrase to its meaning and implications, finds this war the testing ground of human fraility. This is the only true and effective defense we can use to control our fear and sorrow. (Pub.) $2.00

King, William Peter ADVENTISM Abingdon-Cokesbury

On many sides one has heard advocates of the second coming quoting scripture and prophesying that Christ would soon appear. Dr. King does not argue or condemn, but merely carries out an intensive study of the subject. He eventually reaches the conclusion that there is no sound basis of fact for this view, rather is it founded on the literal interpretation of a few apocalyptic passages. (Pub.) $1.00

Klein, Edward J. - Ed. . THE IMITATION OF CHRIST Harper

A new edition based on Whitford's translation. Through Dr. Klein's research, Whitford has been definitely established as the first translator (1530), and readers will find the text delightfully marked by a rugged simplicity. This widely read book is always a popular gift book. This time it has grown into a very large book, but the print is so good that many will prefer it to the pocket version. (Pub.) $3.00

Kopf, Carl Heath WINDOWS ON LIFE Macmillan

While we don't give this a great deal, it may chalk up a pretty good sale, especially in New England where the author is a well-known radio speaker. Here is a series of addresses that leans more to morality than religion, discussing everything from beauty of face and spirit to gambling. Entirely popular in appeal. (Pub.) $1.75

Love, Julian Rice THE MISSIONARY MESSAGE OF THE BIBLE Macmillan

So inextricably tied into the Bible is its missionary message that many clergy and most laymen need such a book as this to remind them of its existence. Presbyterians and other Protestants as well as the mission-minded group in the Episcopal church will appreciate the vitality of Dr. Love's analysis of the Scriptures and their message. (Pub.) $2.00

Lynch, John W. A WOMAN WRAPPED IN SILENCE Macmillan

A novel in verse, the story of a young girl, her marriage and her son, and the girl is Mary, mother of Jesus, and her life lends itself particularly well to poetry. The story follows the New Testament presentation closely, and the poetry does it full justice. (Pub.) $2.00

Moreno, J. L. - preface
and commentary by THE WORDS OF THE FATHER Beacon House

Mr. Moreno has written the preface and commentary for this book in which God does the speaking. It is not particularly well handled, and unless you have a demand for this type of thing, not to be recommended. (11/5) $3.00

Notkin, Louis M. - Ed. THE QUOTABLE BIBLE Samuel Curl

Everyone who uses the Bible and those who aren't familiar with it have wished, on occasion, that there were a condensed, yet not rewritten, version. Here are the parts one needs and uses in easily accessible form, the continuity of thought preserved, even intensified by this simplication. Verses are numbered so the reader may know where the narrative is cut. A book for clergy and laymen, and one that will be in constant demand through the years. Dr. Sockman's foreword gives something of the history of the Bible and supplies a good deal of information rarely given save in seminaries. (Pub.) $3.00

Sangster, W. E. THE CHRISTIAN HAS WINGS Abingdon-Cokesbury

Dr. Sangster left Leeds to go to London to live in a public air raid shelter in September, 1940. There he has written this book, basing the different essays on words from the addresses of ten international statesmen, Roosevelt, Churchill, Eden, Halifax, etc. - He discusses various aspects of the war, and its outcome, in terms of security, democracy, the new order, freedom, progress, etc. Dr. Sangster has a wide following and this new book is a stimulating one. (Pub.) $1.50

Sheen, Fulton J. A DECLARATION OF DEPENDENCE Bruce

* Just as great privilege carries great responsibility, so freedom and independence carry a corresponding dependence. Dependence on God who ordains the laws which safeguard our independence and freedom. Sheen is one of the most straightforward, outspoken writers today. Here as always he pleads for a godly society, and blames the society of today which has created its own Dictators. Astringent. (Pub.) $1.75

Undset, Sigrid CHRISTMAS AND TWELFTH NIGHT Longmans, Green

A reissue of a Christmas essay, an adoration of the Nativity, written with tenderness and reverence. A lovely little Christmas gift for Catholics or the devout. (11/?) $.75

Wilson, P. W. NEWTOPIA Scribner

* Since his arrival in the United States in 1917 as a foreign correspondent for the London Daily News, and for the past twenty years on the New York Times, this clever Englishman has been using his pen in an effort to make the world a better place in which to live. His *Christ We Forget* has long been a classic; his *Greville Diary* and *William Pitt The Younger* had excellent sales. Now he writes in entertaining fashion for "those who want a roof over their heads". Newtopia is the place one might live in, a practical Utopia not beyond the realm of possibility. Wit and ability are combined with the spirit of reform, and this book has great possibilities. (Pub.) $2.00

TWO JUVENILE BOOKS

Fenn, Dan Huntington SHORT SERMONS FOR CHILDREN Putnam

Adult material, for children, a book of sermons which lack the imagination and action necessary for a younger audience. But these can be used as source material, to be enlivened by the individual preacher. (11/7) $1.75

Windeatt, Mary Fabyan SAINTS IN THE SKY Sheed & Ward

A very simple life of St. Catherine of Siena written for children although the vocabulary may be beyond any but the 'teen agers. ("Dominican tertiaries" and "Thecca's disease" are not exactly easy going for youngsters.) However the illustrations are a delight and text and subject lend themselves nicely to this recapitulation for children. (Pub.) $1.25

For Special Notice

In Sheed & Ward's MASTERPIECE-A-MONTH CLUB planned to form a Catholic mind, we have an interesting and promising idea. Eight books will be chosen from October through May, together with a course of study for each book. The books will be chosen with great care from the great Catholic literature, ancient and modern. Paper bound books, $5.00 a subscription; cloth, $6.50. Single copies will be $.75 and $1.00. See the Sheed & Ward catalogue for the 1941-2 selections and explain this plan to the clergy and laymen in your city.

BULLETIN FROM

Virginia Kirkus' Bookshop Service 439 East 51st Street

Vol. IX November 1, 1941 No. 21

FALL JUVENILE SUPPLEMENT: No. 18

PICTURE STORY BOOKS

Baruch, Dorothy — FOUR AIRPLANES — Holiday House

They were red and yellow and blue and white - and they flew over farms and houses and city streets and water. The chief value of the book lies in the combination of recurrent rhythms of words, sounds, etc. and the recognition element in identification of the things the airplanes view and familiar objects in the child's horizons. Very slight text with pictures in bold flat colors, decorative simulation of a child's own natural way of drawings. Illustrated by Lee Maril. (Publ.) $1.00

Rey, H. A. — HOW DO YOU GET THERE ? — Houghton, Mifflin

A very good idea, not quite simple enough in development. Pages of the book are folded over so that the answer to the question posed by each picture, is found when the flap of the picture is opened out. Various ways of travel and transportation, including such remote methods as camels and elephants and submarines, and omitting (here is the weakness of the book) automobiles, trains, subways, bicycles. The Rey pictures are gay and amusing, with lots of detail that children enjoy examining. (Publ.) $1.00

BOOKS TO READ ALOUD (6-9)

Kreis, Hans — THE PICTURE PUZZLE STORY BOOK — Barnes

Anyone who has been with a child who gets *Child Life* will have experienced the tantalizing problem of finding the puritan maid and the Indian in this picture, the dog in that, and so on. Good puzzles for little children, from about five or six up to about nine. Selection has been made from picture puzzles that have run over the years, and there is an accompanying text which gives story or history or legend appropriate to each picture puzzle. A play-book or game book with educational value. The text is set, unfortunately, in rather close and unappealing style. (Publ.) $2.00

Brown, Margaret Wise — THE POLITE LITTLE PENGUIN — Harper

A new sort of manners book, through the story of the raccoon and the penguin who lived and travelled together, and of how the raccoon impressed various aspects of good manners on the little penguin. There is perhaps an element of confusion from the fact that the little penguin applies his instructions at the wrong times or with the wrong people, but it makes for an entertaining nonsense tale. Lots of pictures in color and in black and white by H. A. Rey. (Publ.) $1.75

Doane, Pelagie - *Ill'd by* — THREE PRAYERS — Grosset & Dunlap

The Lord's Prayer, Now I Lay Me and *Heavenly Father* illustrated with full color pictures, - somewhat inclined towards the calendar chromo art, but decorative, good merchandise. Paper and board binding. Lacks the quality of *A Child's Book of Prayers* on Random House list, thought definitely imitative. (Publ.) $1.00

Raymond, Louise THE OLDEST STORY IN THE WORLD Little, Brown

The original text of Genesis is used as a basis for expansion and clarification of the story of creation, and Miss Raymond has successfully kept the rhythms and feel of the Bible text. I think children like the sonorous sound of words they cannot always understand. This is no rewrite simplification of the "oldest story in the world" - and should not be bought with that expectation. It is a beautiful book, with lavish four color illustrations by Marie Stern (not always accurately gauged to the text, unfortunately, as where the light of the sun appears opposite the text telling of the darkness). I like the decorative illustrations, the flowers and birds and beasts, better than I do the human figures. (Publ.) $1.50

FIRST STEPS IN READING - Story Books

Disney, Walt THE STORY OF CASEY JR. Garden City
DUMBO OF THE CIRCUS
THE STORY OF TIMOTHY'S HOUSE

Three Disney books that children will love. He has a real sense of plot, good nonsense, and a faculty for picking popular subjects. This time his stories revolve around a circus. Casey Jr. is the old-fashioned locomotive that was bought to pull the old-fashioned, rather down-at-the-heel circus - and of how Casey Jr. showed off almost once too often, but managed to save the circus just in time....Timothy was the circus mouse, and this is the tale of how he fashioned a home for himself out of a cheese box, and of how he furnished it ingeniously with the things he found round about ...Dumbo was the baby elephant that seemed destined to disgrace his herd because his big ears made him part of the clown act. Then Timothy came to the rescue, and after a false start or two, evolved an act which made Dumbo and the circus unique. Each $.50

Heal, Edith MR. PINK *And the House on the Roof* Messner

On first impression, the pages of this book seem overburdened with illustrations, the text seems crowded and unattractive. But it is such an amusing and original story, and Mr. Pink, who thought he could never like anything new-fangled (including automobiles and zippers), is such an old dear, that his story and the story of the family that built a home on the roof of his button factory is delicious reading. A good family book. Illustrations in bright colors by Cay Ferry. (Publ.) $2.00

FIRST STEPS IN READING - Fact Books

Henry, Marguerite PICTURED GEOGRAPHY Whitman

These four volumes (*Chile, Argentina, Brazil* and *Mexico*) were reported for Spring publication on page 121 (3/1/41). These are the first I've seen of the projected eight, so here is an added word on the finished books. Kurt Wiese has made such attractive pictures, integral part of every page of text, and the colors have been so faithfully reproduced, the books so well printed, that the general impression is exceedingly decorative and appealing. Consider them, however, as primarily picture geography, good introductory material, adjuncts for beginning geography classes, but not vital enough in text matter to appeal on that ground to most children. (Publ.) $.50

STORY BOOKS FOR THE 9 - 12's

Anderson, C. W. HIGH COURAGE Macmillan

Text and pictures tell the story of Bobcat who was almost an outlaw horse, and of how he was trained by love and understanding and persistence and imagination to become a great race horse. Background - Maryland, leading up to the Maryland Cup. Good factual content on famous horses - and on points in training. Grand pictures. (Publ.) $1.75

Richardson, Myra Reed SHEEP WAGON FAMILY McBride

Good homesteading story of Wyoming cattle country, and of the bitter war between cattle men and sheep men. A young widow with her little family and with the old sheep herder had come back to the place the dead father had urged them to seek out - only to find the cattle men strongly entrenched. School proved a bitter disappointment, for the cattlemen's children turned against the sheep wagon family. War waged against children and a widow proved its own defeat. Well told. Illustrated by Eloise Wilkin. (Publ.) $2.00

FACT BOOKS FOR THE 9 - 12's

Dawson, Lucy DOGS, ROUGH AND SMOOTH Grosset & Dunlap

A famous dog portraitist has made a miscellaneous collection of delightful sketches and portraits of dogs, and - in text, and brief captions, given some of the impressions the dogs made on her as she did their portraits. Included in the text are random bits of information about the different breeds included. (Published) $1.00

Strack, Lilian Holmes MAGIC MINERALS Harper
*Radium ** Asbestos ** Nickel ** 3 vols.*

Excellent content material, handled with good balance of fact, history, legend, personalities and scientific aspects of the three minerals covered. The discovery, the processes of mining, converting, developing various uses of the minerals made interesting reading. Good photographic illustrations. Should prove useful basic reading in technical schools and courses, in school and public libraries. Also good adult education material, as the text, while simple, is not written down. (Publ.) each $1.00

Thomas, Leslie LONG MAY IT WAVE Morrow

This is more than the story of the flag, for it is - in brief - a history of the growth of these United States, as related to various flags. From the first explorers and the flags under which they sailed, through the flags that represented different types of settlements in the New World - on down through sectional strife, wars, conquests, state progress, flags for special occasions, and always the step by step development of Old Glory. Lots of interesting tidbits of information. Fully illustrated. (Publ.) $2.00

FOR THE 12 to 15 YEAR OLDS - Fiction

Howard, Elizabeth SABINA Lothrop, Lee & Shepard

I liked this story immensely, and the publishers have made an attractive looking book out of it, though there is something about the studied artiness of Susanne Suba's work that I do not like. It is a story of an orphan girl who is handed around among various members of her family until, with one uncle, she finds a real home. The setting is Detroit and neighboring village communities, 100 years ago, and into the story the author has woven an immense amount of information about manners and customs and clothes and parties - all the things girls of today might like to know about girls of yesterday. The story is a good one, with a touch of mystery, a touch of romance. (Publ.) $2.50

JORY'S COVE

Bice, Clare Macmillan

There's a lovely quality to the pictures (by the author) in this friendly story of a Nova Scotia fishing village, not far from Halifax, given full value by fine reproduction of tone and texture and different densities of black. It is a distinguished piece of fine book making. In addition- the story is a good one, though not as important as one might wish. Tale of a boy whose ambition it was to secure a boat worthy to carry on the traditions of his dead father- of the adventures which made it his. (Pub.) $2.00

Le Grand GLORY HORN McBride

The author of the *Augustus* stories (Bobbs-Merrill) has done an historical novel of Georgia of the Civil War days - a good tale, with an original twist in its blend of slave running - the reverse picture of the underground railway; of running the blockade with cotton for England; of the share in the battle of the Shenandoah Valley played by the cadets of the V M I. I don't particularly like the stylized black and white drawings by the author - but some people do. (11/14) $2.00

FIFTEEN AND UP - Fiction

Bugbee, Emma PEGGY COVERS THE CLIPPER Dodd, Mead

I thought this the least good of the "Peggy" series, for her adventures loosely linked with her assignment to La Guardia Field are drawn pretty thin and seem less natural career material (in the field of journalism) than its predecessors. Miss Bugbee knows whereof she writes - though this particular facet probably involved some secondhand material. (11/18) $2.00

Raymond, Margaret T. & Zylstra, Freida SKYLARK Dodd, Mead

Another career book, which blends journalism with photography (commercial) as the main emphasis. There is a good story (as two struggling young photographers get the chance - and seize it - of going on a small plane trip to South America, and back by freighter). There is a bit of romance, not overstressed. There is a somewhat melodramatic "forced landing" episode, with its sequels. And there is a lot of authentic factual material about commercial photography, which would be Greek to anyone who was a complete neophyte. Consequently, choose your market - on the photography career side - from among those who have a good grounding. (11/10) $2.00

Slater, Florence C. BETSY YATES: REALTOR Dodd, Mead

The third career book - and the best of the three. I know of no other book on real estate as a career, and this one has great variety in the aspects of real estate covered, through the start of a career. Betsy Yates knew she liked people - and homes - and fitting them together. But her first job was in a tea room, her second in a cafeteria, her third as residential manager of what was practically a living club - and then she started up the hard road to success in New York real estate. She had plenty of hurdles to take; she made plenty of mistakes; it was no thornless progress. For this reason, it seems a particularly successful book for the vocational shelf, where career books are too often made to seem untroubled waters. (11/10) $2.00

FIFTEEN AND UP - Non-fiction

Benet, Laura YOUNG EDGAR ALLAN POE Dodd, Mead

Edgar Allan Poe's biography makes eventful reading, though refurbishing it for adolescent consumption tends to shift the focus from most of the adult biographies. This is good reading, though occasionally the style is marred by lush over-writing. A fascinating personality emerges - with the irritating characteristics, the dark shadow, the weaknesses and unreliabilities all given fair place. A checkered career, punctuated with what might have stifled budding genius ordinarily in tragic inability to come to grips with responsibilities, with financial matters. Orphaned early, he was adopted by the Allans of Richmond, and brought up to luxurious tastes and habits; then thrust into the University of Virginia with inadequate funds, and thrust out again when gambling debts and tradesmen's debts caught up with him. The army - West Point- both brief, unhappy periods. Relative happiness ultimately in Philadelphia, in an editorial capacity. Sketchily, his relations with friends and the women he loved - and his mar-

riage to a child wife. Throughout the story of his life, the determination to write overrode all else. There is less than one might wish in the way of critical appraisal of his work, but enough is quoted to give an impetus to further reading. (11/10) $2.50

Hubler, Richard G. LOU GEHRIG Houghton, Mifflin

* For anyone of any age interested in baseball, this is grand story of one of baseball's immortals, "the Iron Horse" of the Yankees. A big, fat, lumbering kid from the sidewalks of New York - to an idol, beloved by all who knew him, or watched him, not only for his prowess but because of his record as a man. The author has done a successful portrait, realistic, not too rosy. This is no Horatio Alger yarn, but a story of a human being who fumbles around making errors as he grows towards full stature The constant comparison with "Babe Ruth" is handled in clear-cut and sympathetic fashion. Gehrig's record will always be a part of baseball's history. (11/14) $2.00

ADULT BOOKS FOR OLDER BOYS AND GIRLS

Grabbe, Paul & Sherman, J. E. OUTDOORS WITH THE CAMERA Harper

The sort of camera guide one can use on the spot, with right and wrong pictures illustrating basic points, as the author (Grabbe) himself acquired them. Can be sold as a field guide to camera work, from the start of learning to take pictures properly, to darkroom procedure. (For fuller report, see page 541) (Publ.) $2.50

Johnson, Osa FOUR YEARS IN PARADISE Lippincott

An expansion of the material in *I Married Adventure* which gives the story of the Johnsons' life at Lake Paradise, established for animal and native photography. Their adventures with jungle wild life, safaris for business and pleasure, animal babies, native crew, etc. (For fuller report see page 532) (11/19) $3.50

Lovette, Com. Leland P. SCHOOL OF THE SEA Stokes

The biography of the Academy at Annapolis, from its inception to the Navy today. Friendly, nostalgic record, analysis of purpose, theory and practice, curriculum, social life, sports, clubs. (For fuller report see page 540) (11/12) $3.00

Guyton, Boone T. AIR BASE Whittlesey

The daily life of a U S N flier, beginning with the end of his training at Pensacola. Daily incidents, four years with a carrier squadron, training cruises on aircraft carriers, patrol flights, dive bombers, war games, an absorbing picture of modern naval aviation. (For full report see page 532). (Publ.) $2.50

BOOKS FOR PARENTS AND TEACHERS

Jagendorf, M. PENNY PUPPETS, PENNY THEATRE AND PENNY PLAYS Bobbs-Merrill

Short cut to constructive play, both in the making of puppets for little money and in little time, but in using them in original, brief plays, which children can cope with themselves, once the initial hurdle is taken. Designed for fairly young children (9 to 12). First of all, the kinds of puppet theatres and how to build them, with clear cut, simple directions and diagrams. The equipment, and how to make it - and to use it. The scenery (simplified for use with the 9 plays included). Next, the puppets themselves,- different kinds and how they are made and operated. Finally the plays, from the very simplest up to somewhat more complex. Full details of setting, number of puppets to use, acting it out - and costs. Final section of the book deals with making plans for presenting the production. Excellent how-to-do book which parents and teachers can start going - and then turn over to the children. (Publ.) $2.00